



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
DETROIT DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1027  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48231-1027

IN REPLY REFER TO  
Public Affairs Office

August 28, 2002

The Detroit District, US Army Corps of Engineers appreciates the messages and letters we have received regarding Gull Island. We are interested in hearing all views and perspectives on this issue. We have, and will continue to, weigh all the facts each time we are faced with a decision on the disposition of the island.

The use of Gull Island periodically becomes a controversial and emotionally charged issue. Be assured that we will act on the facts to balance the concern for safety and illegal activity with basic American rights and freedom.

Clearly, the overwhelming majority of visitors to Gull Island are responsible, and law abiding citizens. It is unfortunate, however, that a small number of people choose to break the law, attracting negative sensationalistic attention. While we do not condone unlawful behavior, the actions of a few individuals do not warrant prohibiting the use of the island by hundreds of others. We will continue to monitor this issue closely and will exercise our right to change our position at any time.

Visitors are reminded that although Gull Island is federal property, local law enforcement officers (Township and/or County and/or State), as well as the United States Coast Guard have full jurisdiction, access, and our 100% support to enforce existing laws. Your respect and full cooperation are absolutely essential.

Our utmost concern is safety. The Detroit District appeals to all who enjoy Gull Island – *any* day of the year – to do so safely, exercising good judgment and common sense. Cleanliness of the island is also important and it is imperative that visitors leave nothing behind.

Thank you for your interest and feedback on this issue. We appreciate everyone's effort in keeping Gull Island safe, clean, and enjoyable to visit.

Sincerely,

Lynn Duerod  
Ch., Public Affairs Office  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Detroit District  
WebTeam@LRE02.usace.army.mil